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For Immediate Release:

2015 Season to Open at Boerner Botanical Gardens

Milwaukee, WI - (April 21, 2014) –Boerner Botanical Gardens will officially open for the season Saturday, April 25. The Botanical Gardens, “Milwaukee’s Living Museum,” is renowned for collections of crabapples and roses, trial gardens, and the surrounding arboretum. The Botanical Gardens is located at 9400 Boerner Drive in Whitnall Park.

Garden hours are 8 a.m.–6 p.m., seven days a week.

On opening day, Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens will display entries submitted for the Recycled Art with a Purpose Contest. All pieces were made from items that had specific uses, but the artists reimagined the materials and repurposed them into new creations. From 10 a.m.–noon, visitors will have the opportunity to vote for “The People’s Choice Award.” To access the Botanical Gardens on opening day, visitors are encouraged to enter the area from the southeast, at 92 Street and College Avenue, and follow the winding road up the hill, past the red barn.

Also to be celebrated at the Botanical Gardens is National Public Gardens Day, Friday, May 8. The annual celebration raises awareness of the important role of botanical gardens and arboreta in promoting environmental stewardship, and plant and water conservation. At Boerner Botanical Gardens, spring plants will be emerging, and flowering trees and shrubs will be filled with buds just beginning to open. Horticulturists will lead general garden walks with special emphasis on their areas of expertise. At 9 a.m., additional attention will be given to the Rose, Herb, Daylily, and Bog Gardens and the Rotary Walk; at 10 a.m., the Trial Garden and trees of the parking lot; at 11 a.m., the Shrub Mall, Rock Garden, and rain-harvesting area; and at 1 p.m., the Perennial Garden, Peony Garden, and beds surrounding the Education and Visitor Center.

Regular admission to the Botanical Gardens is \$5.50 for adults age 18 and up; \$4.50 for students of any age with IDs, Milwaukee County seniors age 60 and up with IDs, and people with disabilities; and \$3.50 for youths age 6-17. Admission to the gardens requires wearing the official daily wristband.

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The Boerner Botanical Gardens Arboretum occupies over 1000 acres in Whitnall Park and the adjoining Root River Parkway. The Arboretum has received Level II Accreditation from the Morton Register. The accreditation program recognizes arboreta for achieving professional standards to advance the planting and conservation of trees.

For more information, call Boerner Botanical Gardens at (414) 525-5601 or visit countyparks.com.

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